

Forest North Neighborhood

Street Reconstruction

2012– Phase 12 Forest North Neighborhood Street Reconstruction

September 21, 2012

Newsletter No. 5

Please Remember to Continue Watering Your New Sod.....

Care of New Sod

When new sod is installed in front of your home, **begin watering your new sod immediately!** Your efforts, when combined with the contractor watering the boulevard sod for the **first 30 days only**, will help the sod grow so your lawn looks its best.

Apply the water in three or four applications per week. Lawns need deep roots to help them withstand the hot weather and periods of little or no rain. **After the first 30 days, it will be entirely up to you to water!** Sod installation is complete in **Areas A and B** and the 30-day contractor watering period has expired in **Area A** and will soon be expiring in parts of **Area B**.

Please read your sod care flyer very carefully. If you are using a lawn service, please share with them the maintenance recommendations shown on the flyer.

While all of the sod installed will probably go dormant by late November, we want to remind all of you of the following maintenance tips for the sod to survive through the fall.

- Do not walk on your new sod for the first two weeks after its installation.
- Do not mow the new sod until it "roots down" and you are unable to easily lift the sod from the soil. Then set the mower deck at the **highest setting** and cut the new sod with this setting for the remainder of the year.
- Do not fertilize your new sod until fall 2013. The contractor will fertilize in the spring. If you fertilize sooner, you risk killing the grass.

It takes about three years for new sod to mature; you must continue to water your sod as described in the sod care flyer for the next few growing seasons!

Residents that have replaced their private driveway using the street contractor need to water the new sod along the edge of the driveway. The contractor cannot water your sod the full length of the driveway.

Sod care flyers will continue to be passed out to residents receiving new sod.

Recent Events

During the past six weeks, the street contractor, Northwest Asphalt, completed the following work:

Area B (north of and including 48th Avenue) – The contractor completed the installation of topsoil, sod and rain gardens.

Area B (south of 48th Avenue) – The contractor completed the installation of the street gravel base, the first layer of blacktop, blacktop driveways, topsoil, sod and rain gardens.

Area C – The contractor completed the correction of unsuitable road foundation soils and installed concrete curb and gutter, concrete driveways, street gravel base and the first layer of blacktop. The installation of blacktop driveways also began.

Area D – The reclaim machine recycled the existing blacktop surface and gravel beneath it into gravel that will be used under the new blacktop pavement and removed existing concrete curb and gutter. Private sanitary sewer service repairs, reconstruction of storm sewer manholes and catch basins, storm sewer and drain tile pipe installation, and the correction of unsuitable road foundation soils were also completed.

Important Reminders

Emergencies: If you have an **emergency situation** regarding the street reconstruction project after working hours, please call Northwest Asphalt's respondent at 952.292.8460. If necessary, you may call 911.

Construction Safety: Please remind your children to stay **as far as possible** from all construction activities and equipment. **Construction safety is our utmost concern and your cooperation is imperative.** Construction activities are extremely dangerous and we do not want any mishaps.

Tentative 3 Week Schedule

The following schedule is a result of the contractor's best guess of progress. Many factors, including weather conditions and coordination of private utility reconstruction, may change the

schedule. We will keep you posted of any significant changes.

Area C – The installation of blacktop driveways will continue. The spreading of black dirt in the boulevards and the installation of sod will begin during the week of **October 1**. Following that will be the construction of rain gardens. The rain garden plantings will take place in spring 2013.

Area D – The contractor will begin preparing streets to receive their recycled gravel base. Curb and gutter installation will begin on approximately **September 26**. Concrete driveway installations will begin soon after curb and gutter installation. Installing the gravel base will continue through the week of **October 1**. The contractor will pave the streets with their first layer of blacktop during the week of **October 8**. Blacktop driveway paving will begin right after the streets are paved. Following blacktop driveway paving, the contractor will begin the spreading of black dirt in the boulevards and installing the sod.

Concrete Installation

Whenever concrete curb and gutter or driveway surfaces are poured, please do not drive across the concrete for 6 days. The concrete needs this time to gain sufficient strength. The contractor will provide you advance notice so

your vehicles are not trapped in your driveway.

During the time you cannot access your driveway, the Crystal police department will allow you to park in the street overnight in front of your home. Once the concrete curb gains sufficient strength, a temporary gravel ramp will be built across the curb so you can access your driveway. **Following construction of the temporary gravel ramps, the Crystal police department will not allow you to park in the street overnight in front of your home.**

For those residents with an alley, you will retain access from one side of the alley at all times during concrete installation.

If you have any concerns about your vehicles being trapped in or out of your driveway, please **now** contact Dave Fritzke, Crystal City Engineering Department, for potential assistance. Dave can be reached at 763.531.1163 or Dave.Fritzke@crystalmn.gov.

Immediate Action Items - Private Driveway & Sanitary Sewer Replacement- Crystal Residents Only

Areas A, B, C and D – The deadline to enter into a contract with the City for these repairs has lapsed.

Field Office

The field office is located 4720 Douglas Dr. Chris McKenzie of Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH) will be available there throughout the project. Please remember that parking is NOT permitted on Douglas Drive. When visiting the field office, please park in the Crystal Community Center parking lot.

You can put project related written correspondence in the utility payment mailbox located outside City Hall.

Communications

You will receive newsletters throughout the course of the project through the mail to keep you up-to-date. Additionally, previous newsletters can be viewed on Crystal's website at http://www.crystalmn.gov/city_departments/phase_12.html

Anytime you have questions or comments, please contact either:

Chris McKenzie of SEH at
952.912.2607 or
cmckenzie@sehinc.com.

Mick Cyert of the City of Crystal at
763.531.1161 or
mick.cyert@crystalmn.gov.

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